

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7231

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 2526

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XH

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR

REF: STATE 069945

1. PARTICIPANTS: H.E. DR. ZDRAVKO PECAR, AMBASSADOR OF YUGOSLAVIA  
SHIRLEY TEMPLE BLACK, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO GHANA

DATE: APRIL 16, 1975

PLACE: OFFICE OF THE YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR, ACCRA

2. AMBASSADOR PECAR PHONED ME AT MY OFFICE ON TUESDAY, APRIL 15,  
TO ASK IF I COULD COME OVER SOON TO TALK OF SOMETHING "HE DIDN'T  
WISH TO DISCUSS ON THE PHONE." I AGREED TO COME THE NEXT MORNING  
AT 11:30 A.M. AT THIS MEETING HE SERVED ME SOME OF THE INSTANT  
CHICKEN CONSOMME I HAD GIVEN TO HIM AND TOLD THE FOLLOWING TALE:

3. A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO THE GDR AMBASSADOR, MR. JOHANNES BOGEL,  
ASKED AMBASSADOR PECAR TO COME OVER TO THIS OFFICE. THEY SPENT A  
HALF AN HOUR DISCUSSING "NOTHING OF IMPORTANCE", BUT AS PECAR WAS  
ABOUT TO LEAVE, VOGEL SAID, "EXCELLENCY, WE WANT YOU TO JOIN  
US IN THE CELEBRATION OF 'ALLIES OF WORLD WAR II' ON MAY 9."  
PECAR SAID, "JOIN YOU, HELL--WE BEAT YOU\*"

4. VOGEL COMMENTED THAT "AS COMMUNISTS, WE DEFEATED THE FASCISTS;  
WE ARE ALL TOGETHER\*" PECAR STATED THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES  
WOULD HE PARTICIPATE. VOGEL SAID HE WAS CERTAIN THAT PECAR WOULD  
CHANGE HIS MIND.

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5. THAT EVENING AT A RECEPTION, PECAR WALKED UP TO THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR, YURI BERNOV, AND SAID THAT THE NEXT TIME HE WANTED TO ASK FOR SOMETHING, HE SHOULD COME HIMSELF AND NOT SEND ONE OF HIS UNDERLINGS TO DO THE JOB. BERNOV SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT THE INVITATION HAD BEEN DECLINED AND URGED PECAR TO RECONSIDER. BERNOV CONTINUED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA WOULD NOT BE PLEASED BY PECAR'S ATTITUDE AND THAT HE SHOULD JOIN HIS FELLOW COMMUNISTS, BULGARIA, HUNGARY, POLAND, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, GDR. (NOTE: PECAR TOLD ME THEY WERE SPEAKING LOUDLY AND THAT THE RECEPTION GUESTS WERE TURNING AROUND TO LOOK AND LISTEN. THIS PLEASED PECAR VERY MUCH.)

6. THE NEXT DAY PECAR WAS APPROACHED BY THE HUNGARIAN, WHO LEANED ON HIM MORE HEAVILY. A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER THE BULGARIAN WAS INSISTENT THAT PECAR SHOULD JOIN THE GROUP'S CELEBRATION. AMBASSADOR VALEV OF BULGARIA SAID THAT, IF PECAR DIDN'T JOIN, YUGOSLAVIA WOULD RECALL PECAR. "THEY CAN'T RECALL ME BEFORE MAY 9. I WILL NOT PARTICIPATE." PECAR TURNED TO ME WITH MISTY EYES AND SAID, "THE BULGARIANS SHOT MY FATHER; THE HUNGARIANS KILLED MANY OF MY RELATIVES; I WILL NOT ATTEND."

7. PECAR ADDED, "SHIRLEY, THEY ARE TRY TO AFRAID ME."

8. HE CONTINUED. THE ROMANIAN CHARGE STOPPED BY THIS OFFICE AND ASKED WHAT YUGOSLAVIA WAS GOING TO DO ABOUT "LIBERATION DAY". PECAR TOLD HIM HE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE. THE ROMANIAN INDICATED THAT HE DIDN'T WANT TO BUT THAT HE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE TO.

9. THE CZECHS MADE THE NEXT OVERTURE, AND PECAR REMAINED SOLID IN HIS DECISION.

10. PECAR TELEGRAPHED THIS INFORMATION TO HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY AND RECEIVED HEARTY APPROVAL OF HIS STAND. THE YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTRY TOLD PECAR THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED INFORMATION FOR THEIR AMBASSADORS AROUND THE WORLD AND THAT THEY ARE ALL RECEIVING SIMILAR HEAVY PRESSURE FROM THE SOVIET BLOC COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY BY THE SOVIETS. (NOTE: PECAR TOLD ME THAT PRESIDENT TITO WAS VERY ANNOYED ABOUT THIS MATTER AND HAD MADE A STRONG SPEECH ABOUT "ALLIES LIBERATION DAY" ABOUT A WEEK AND A HALF AGO.) BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR VALEV ON APRIL 15 ASKED PECAR TO ATTEND A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD HOLD ON MAY 9. THE SOVIET CONFIDENTIAL

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AMBASSADOR WOULD MAKE A SPEECH, AMBASSADOR VALEV WOULD SPEAK, AND PECAR WOULD ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THE PRESS MIGHT ASK. PECAR REFUSED.

11. IT WAS TIME FOR US TO ATTEND A DIPLOMATIC FUNCTION AT THE DANISH RESIDENCE. PECAR ASKED IF HE COULD RIDE WITH ME IN MY CAR "SO THAT EVERYONE WILL SEE US ARRIVE TOGETHER." HIS SCHEME WORKED. AS WE DROVE INTO THE DANE'S DRIVEWAY, THE BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR

HAD JUST ARRIVED. THE GDR AMBASSADOR ARRIVED JUST BEHIND US.  
PECAR WAS PLEASED.

12. CONCLUSION: PECAR MADE THE FOLLOWING REQUEST OF ME. HE  
ASKED THAT I GIVE A LARGE PARTY AT MY RESIDENCE ON MAY 9. I  
REFUSED THIS REQUEST BY SAYING THAT IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE.  
BUT IF INVITED TO THE SOVIET BLOCK COUNTRIES' RECEPTION FOR WWII  
ALLIES ON MAY 9, I WOULD ARRIVE WITH THE AMBASSADOR FOR JAPAN  
AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY\*\*\*  
BLACK

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